

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend Paragraph [0001] of the specification as follows:

[0001] ~~This application claims the benefit of the filing date of United States Provisional Patent Application~~ The present application is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. ~~patent application Ser. No. Patent Application~~ 10/282,356 (filed ~~Oct.~~ October 29, 2002) entitled "Instrumentation and Methods for use in Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc", now U.S. Pat. 7,169,182 ("the '~~356-application~~182 patent'") and a continuation-in-part application of U.S. ~~patent application Ser. No. U.S. Patent Application~~ 10/309,585 (filed ~~Dec.~~ December 4, 2002) entitled "Static Trials and Related Instruments and Methods for ~~use~~Use in Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc", now U.S. Pat. 7,115,132 ("the '~~585-application~~132 patent'") and a continuation-application-in-part of U.S. ~~patent application Ser. No. Patent Application~~ 10/425,267 (filed ~~Apr.~~ April 29, 2003) entitled "Wedge Plate Inserter/Impactor and Related Methods for use in Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc" (~~"the '267 application"~~). ~~The '356 application is a continuing application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/256,160 (filed Sep., now U.S. Pat. 7,235,081 ("the '081 patent"). Both the '132 patent and the '081 patent are continuation-in-part applications of 10/282,356 (filed October 29, 2002) entitled "Instrumentation and Methods for use in Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc", now U.S. Pat. 7,169,182 ("the '182 patent") which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application 10/256,160 (filed Sept. September 26, 2002) entitled "Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Compression Locking Post" ("the '160 application"), which is a parent application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/642,528 (filed Aug. 15,~~

~~2003) entitled "Axially Compressible Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Compression Locking Post" ("the '528 application") and a, now U.S. Pat. 6,989,032 ("the '032 patent"), which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 10/175,417 (filed Jun. June 19, 2002) entitled "Artificial Intervertebral Disc Utilizing a Ball Joint Coupling", which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 10/151,280 (filed May 20, 2002) entitled "Tension Bearing Artificial Disc Providing a Centroid of Motion Centrally Located Within an Intervertebral Space", which is a continuation-in-part application of both U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 09/970,479 (filed Oct. October 4, 2001) entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Spirally Slotted Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves", now U.S. Pat. 6,669,730 ("the '730 patent"), as well as U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 10/140,153 (filed May 7, 2002) entitled "Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Flexible Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element", the former being a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 09/968,046 (filed Oct. October 1, 2001) entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves" and the latter being a ~~econtinuing~~continuation-in-part application of both U.S. ("the '730 patent application Ser. No. 09/970,479") (detailed above) as well as U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 10/128,619 (filed Apr. April 23, 2002) entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Having a Flexible Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element", now U.S. Pat. 6,863,689 ("the '689 patent") which is a continuation-in-part application of both U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 09/906,119 (filed Jul. July 16, 2001) and entitled "Trial~~

Intervertebral Distraction Spacers", now U.S. Pat. 6,607,559 ("the '559 patent) as well as U.S. ~~patent application Ser. No.~~ Patent Application 09/982,148 (filed ~~Oct.~~ October 18, 2001) and entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Having Arch Shaped Spring Elements"-, now U.S. Pat. 6,673,113 ("the '113 patent"). All of the above mentioned applications are hereby incorporated by reference herein in their respective entireties.